

# Park Academy Newsletter

Issue 18

September 2023

## **A message from Ms Mohey, Principal:**

We have had a fantastic start to the academic year and it has been great to see the new Year 7 and 12 students settling in so quickly. All of the students have impressed us with the way that they have approached their studies and grasped all of the opportunities available to them. Students have been demonstrating the Park values of Perseverance, Aspiration, Respect and Kindness and the Academy has been a welcoming place to be. We were so proud of all of the students who represented the Academy this term at multiple events and with guest speakers. We have had positive feedback from all and it has been amazing to see them all as outstanding ambassadors for the Academy.

## **Year 7 Team building day:**

We are incredibly impressed at the start that our Year 7 students have made at Park Academy. As part of their induction, all Year 7 students participated in a Team building day where they worked with their peers across a number of activities. This included building the tallest tower, creating a parachute to hold an egg, team building games and playing rounders. Their engagement was excellent and we look forward to seeing this level of engagement in lessons and other activities that will be available to them.



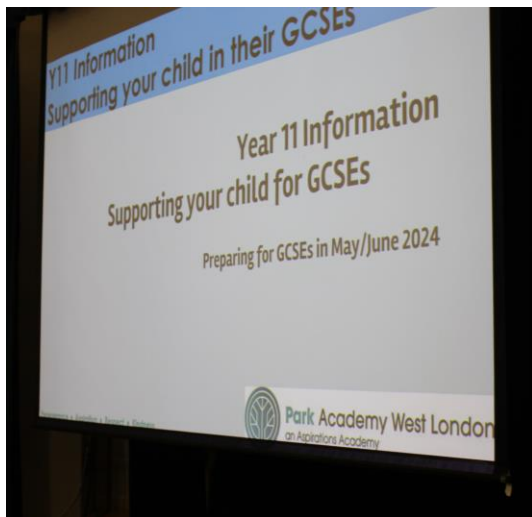
## **Whole Academy DEAR event:**

Promoting a love of reading amongst our community is something that is incredibly important to us at Park. Each week during AM time there are opportunities for all students to read. On 25<sup>th</sup> September we had our first Drop Everything and Read event of the academic year, where staff and students dropped everything for 30 minutes to immerse themselves in a book.

# Careers

## Year 13 Personal Statement workshop and UCAS information evening

Participating in a personal statement workshop helped to support our Year 13 students in finalising their personal statements before submitting their UCAS applications. Following this, parents and students attended our UCAS information evening, providing further guidance on how to apply for University and apprenticeships.



## Year 11 Next Steps evening

This evening provided an opportunity for students and their parents to gain a clear understanding of the expectations of Year 11 and further information to support our Year 11 students in achieving their best. Subject specific information was provided for English, Science and Maths, alongside strategies for effective revision and supporting mental well being. Parents left with some tips on how to support their child in the lead up to the summer and students were sent away with a range of resources to support their revision.

Our intervention timetable has been running for a number of weeks now with sessions running from 3:20 - 4:20pm (add in table):

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Maths	Options	Science	English	Humanities MFL

## Year 13 Living away from home day

On 29<sup>th</sup> September Year 13 students were provided with a taste of what living away from home might be like for them. They were provided with opportunities to learn about basic tenancy rights and basic housekeeping; financial independence and had a cooking lesson, where they learnt to make spicy sausage pasta. Alongside this they listened to real life experiences of living away from home, including those from Park staff.



## Year 10 – Planning finances for your future

Year 10 students engaged in a practical workshop and presentations based on 'Planning your finances for the future'.

This proved to be insightful and thought provoking as students were introduced to new concepts related to finance and costings, allowing them to future project and utilise their critical thinking skills all whilst building their knowledge base on how money functions in society.

# Student Leadership

## Student leadership team 2022-23

We would like to congratulate all of the students below who have been successful in their applications to be part of our student leadership team this year. Our leaders have been a credit to the Academy so far this year, representing us at our Year 6 Open Evening and have organised lots of house events for all students to participate in.



	Richmond	Kensington	Regents	Greenwich
House Captain	Alice Walker	Diana Mirzad	Nadia Ajao	Summer Cooley
Deputy House Captains	Mercedes Maher Henry Jarvis Emma Bacon	Abbie Garland Ina Cardoso	Patryk Skiba Faye Milsom Alfie Foster	Maxine Idago Grace Anstey Adele Patrick

## House Competitions

One of the roles of our student leadership team is to organise house competitions for students across all year groups to compete against each other and win house points for their respective house. The house captains led by Alice Walker ran the first house competition on Friday 29th September which was a tug-of-war competition between the houses in year 7. Many students took part who conducted themselves impeccably and showed excellent teamwork and communication. The winning house was Regents followed by Kensington in 2nd place, Richmond in 3rd and Greenwich in 4th place.



**STARS**

Getting young London moving

## TFL Stars team 2022-23

Congratulations to the TFL STARS team 2022/23 who have just been awarded the bronze accreditation from TFL for improving sustainable and safe travel to and from school. Over the past few months the students (now in year 8/9) ran workshops, assemblies, completed display boards, newsletter articles, mapping activities, ran an obstacle course, delivered a presentation to multiple schools and TFL on their project. The students showed incredible dedication, excellent communication, team work and planning skills to successfully deliver their project. The students even ran a competition for other students to win a BMX biking session at the Olympic Velodrome for those who ditched the bus/car and started cycling to school. The students worked tirelessly to organise, plan and deliver the project themselves to educate others on safe travel to and from school and the impact their travel has on the environment.

**Congratulations on all your work!**



# Student Leadership



## Year 6 Open Evening

Our Year 6 Open Evening was very well attended by members of our local community. We would like to thank all of the Park students who supported us on this evening, whether as tour guides or in department areas. We have received lots of feedback about how polite, welcoming and friendly students at Park are – **they were great ambassadors for the PARK values.**



## Charity events

Great fun was had by staff and students as they went head to head in Tug of War! This House event was hosted by the House Captains to raise money for Cancer Research.



## House point totals at the end of half term 1

Well done to Richmond House who are currently winning the house point totals after our first half term. A huge congratulations to the other houses who have all exceeded 20,000 points – this is a fantastic achievement! Keep up the hard work everyone and we look forward to seeing whether Richmond can retain this win!



	Richmond	Kensington	Regents	Greenwich
Total house points	23,219	20,790	20,808	21,473

# Personal development and enrichment

## Healthy lifestyles

To support their personal development, all sixth forms students spend Wednesday afternoon participating in an enrichment activity of their choice. This includes cooking club, book club, football and board game clubs. Students attending cooking club are having lots of fun in creating dishes from given ingredients.



## Sexual health awareness

As part of Sexual Health Awareness week, Year 9, 10 and 11 participated in an assembly hosted by Brook. Amber Newman-Clark, the Education and Wellbeing Coordinator spoke to students about sexual health and how to access services related to sexual health.



## Promoting mental well-being

Year 10, 12 and 13 were lucky enough to watch the Silent Minds Play. The play showcases stories of anxiety, eating disorders, body dysmorphia and bipolar disorder as a way of introducing mental illness to young people in a creative format.

Throughout the play, our students were encouraged to take part in breathing techniques and mindfulness exercises along with the characters.

It was an excellent play with an outstanding message and we hope the students learned more information and knowledge about the mental health issues which affect young people today.

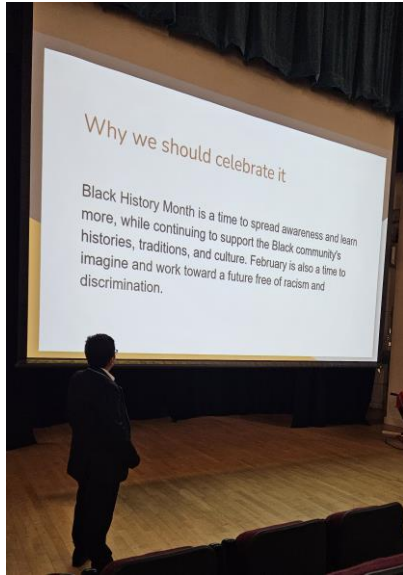


United Kingdom  
Mathematics Trust

## Senior maths challenge

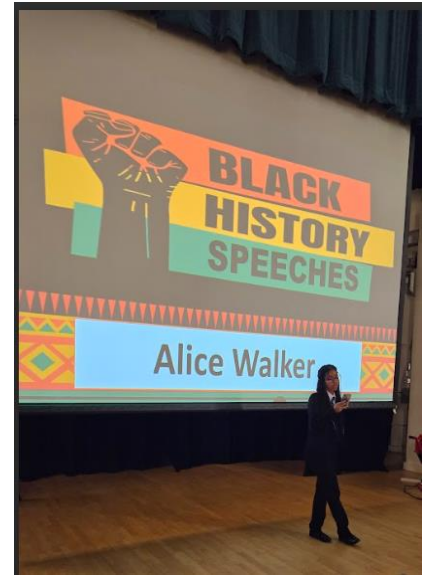
Well done to the Year 11, 12 and 13 Maths students on participating in the Senior Maths Challenge on 4th October. The Senior Maths challenge is a 90-minute multiple choice challenge which encourages reasoning and problem solving. To recognise the highest performers in the challenge, the top 66% of students in the country receive either a bronze, silver or gold certificate. We look forward to finding out our students' scores later this month.

# Personal development and enrichment



## **Celebrating Black History month**

To celebrate Black History Month, students were provided with an opportunity to lead a presentation on a topic of their choice to staff and students. Well done to all students who participated and helped us celebrate Black History.



## **Anti bullying ambassador training**

Our anti bullying ambassadors participated in further training this half term, specifically around the LGBTQ+ community. They continue to support all students in the Academy to ensure that Park remains a fully inclusive environment for all.



## **Jack Petchey's Speak Out Challenge**

Year 10 students had the opportunity to participate in the Jack Petchey's Speak Out Challenge. The day started with an expert led interactive workshop. Students then had the opportunity to write their own speeches and performed these to their peers and a small panel of judges. There were some fantastic speeches delivered and we are incredibly proud of all students – it takes courage to stand up and speak!





# Other information

## Attendance

Attendance is a priority at Park Academy as we know that those students with the best attendance, have the best chance of success.

Although 90% would be a good score on an exam, when it comes to attendance it is not positive. This would mean that a child has missed the equivalent of a month of school which is 100 hours of learning.

We understand that for some children there may be barriers preventing them from having good attendance – we are here to support your child so if this is the case, please reach out to us.

Attendance Percentage (%)	Days in School	Number of days losing <u>knowledge</u>	Outcome	Chances of Success
100	190	No lost learning	Perfection	Best chance of success
98	186	4 days	Excellent	
96	183	7 days	Good	
94	179	11 days (~2 weeks)	Slight concern	Chances of success will <b>suffer</b>
92	175	15 days (~3 weeks)	Concern	
90	171	19 days (~4 weeks or 1 month!)	Serious concern	Significantly reduced chances of success
Below 90	Persistent Absentee (PA) – not fair on yourself / your child. Possible fines & court action.			

## Uniform

Do you have any Park Academy uniform, PE kit, shoes or coats that are in good condition but no longer used? If so we would be very grateful if you could bring these into the main reception area, as this would hugely support some of our families.

### SCHOOL UNIFORM



## Breakfast club

Breakfast club runs everyday from 7:30am and is open to all students. If students receive free school meals, they are entitled to a free breakfast including 1 food item and 1 drink. We strongly encourage all students to eat breakfast to support their concentration and fuel their brain for learning.

**CucinA<sup>®</sup>**  
fresh thinking

## Extra curricular programme

There is a wide variety of extra curricular activities for students to participate in this term including sports, art, film, Harry Potter, investment club, anime and many more. All students receive house points for attending so please encourage your child to sign up – there is something for everyone.

